



CONNECTICUT

**TESTIMONY OF
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS
BY
ANDY MARKOWSKI, CONNECTICUT STATE DIRECTOR
OPPOSING
SB-324, AAC THE MANDATORY LICENSING AND OVERSIGHT OF TRASH HAULERS
BEFORE THE
GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 13, 2009**

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), Connecticut's and the nation's leading small-business advocacy association, respectfully submits the following comments opposing SB-324, AAC The Mandatory Licensing And Oversight Of Trash Haulers:

SB-324 would create onerous burdens, additional costs and unnecessary regulations upon an already overregulated industry. Connecticut's small-business owners want lawmakers to know before considering ANY proposal or regulatory scheme, that they should first, do no harm.

For some time, small businesses have been recognized as the engines of growth for the state's economy. Unfortunately, the proposed legislation would undermine these efforts by adversely affecting small-business owners in the waste hauling industry. Additionally, the effects of this legislation would be felt by all businesses throughout the state. Increases in regulations, requirements and overall costs of doing business for members of the waste hauling industry will have a trickle-down effect that will negatively impact the bottom line of all businesses, large and small, and ultimately all consumers and citizens throughout Connecticut. Small, private waste haulers are able to stay in business because they are supported by other small businesses in their community, and vice-versa.

Additionally, NFIB believes this measure is unnecessary. The tools to investigate, regulate, and enforce laws for the waste hauling industry already exist in the form of various civil and criminal state and federal statutes and regulations. Furthermore, the long-term regulatory effects and fiscal impact of this legislation could actually reduce competition within the waste hauling industry and squeeze out many small businesses.